

1. (Currently Amended) A latch operable between a locked position and an unlocked position for securing first and second members of an enclosure, the latch comprising:

a rim adapted to be disposed on the first member, said rim having a top wall and first and second sidewalls, ~~a side wall~~ said top wall including an aperture disposed thereon and said first sidewall including a rib extending therefrom;

a rim adapted to be disposed on the second member, said rim including a top wall and a sidewall, said top wall having a rib extending therefrom;

said second member rim further including a shoulder extending from said top wall opposite said sidewall; and

wherein when the latch secures the members in the locked position, said first member rim is disposed adjacent said second member rim, such that said second member rim rib is disposed in said first member rim aperture and said first member rim rib engages said second member rim sidewall and said first member second sidewall engages said second member rim shoulder to prevent separation of the first and second members.

2. (Original) The latch of claim 1 wherein said second member rim sidewall includes a first end and a second end, said first end being connected to said second member rim top wall and said second end disposed opposite said first end, wherein when the latch is in the locked position, said first member rim rib engages said second member rim sidewall second end to prevent separation of the first and second members.

3. (Currently Amended) The latch of claim 1 wherein the first member rim first sidewall is flexible.

4. (Currently Amended) The latch of claim 3 wherein when the latch is in the unlocked position, said first member rim first sidewall is deflected such that said first member rim sidewall rib is spaced apart from said second member rim sidewall such that the first member can be separated from the second member thereby removing said second member rim rib from said first member rim aperture.

5. (Original) The latch of claim 1 wherein said second member rim sidewall includes an aperture such that when the first and second members are in the locked position, said first member rim rib is disposed in said aperture to prevent separation of the first and second members.

6. (Currently Amended) The latch of claim 5 wherein when the latch is in the unlocked position, said first member rim first sidewall is deflected such that said first member rim sidewall rib is removed from said second member rim sidewall aperture such that the first member can be separated from the second member thereby removing said second member rim rib from said first member rim aperture.

7. (Currently Amended) An enclosure for a pet, the enclosure having a latch operable between a locked position and an unlocked position, the enclosure comprising:

a first member having a top wall, a front wall, a rear wall, a pair of sidewalls, and a bottom opening opposite, said top wall, said front wall, said rear wall and said sidewalls including a rim disposed adjacent said bottom opening, said rim including a top wall and first and second sidewalls a sidewall;

a second member having a bottom wall, a front wall, a rear wall, a pair of sidewalls and an upper opening opposite said bottom wall, said front wall, rear wall and said sidewalls including a rim disposed adjacent said upper opening, said rim including a top wall and a sidewall;

said second member rim further including a shoulder extending from said top wall opposite said sidewall;

wherein said second member rim top wall includes a rib extending therefrom and said first member rim top wall includes an aperture for receiving said rib, said first member rim sidewall further including a rib extending therefrom to engage said second member rim first sidewall; and

wherein when the latch is in the locked position, said second member rim is disposed adjacent said first member rim such that said second member rib is disposed in said aperture and said first member rib engages said second member rim sidewall and said first member second sidewall engages said second member rim shoulder to prevent separation of the first and second members.

8. (Original) The enclosure of claim 7 wherein said first member is a hood.

9. (Original) The enclosure of claim 8 wherein said second member is a pan.